Numb. 235

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Scit Genius natale Comes qui temperat Aſtrum. Hor.

From *Saturday October* 7. to *Tueſday October* 10. 1710.

From my own Apartment, October 9.

AMONG thoſe Inclinations which are common to all Men, there is none more unaccountable than that unequal Love by which Parents diſtinguiſh their Children from each other. Sometimes Vanity and Self-love appear to have a Share towards this Effect; and in other Inſtances I have been apt to attribute it to meer Inſtinct: But however that is, we frequently ſee the Child that has been beholden to neither of theſe Impulſes in their Parents, in ſpight of being neglected, ſnubbed, and thwarted at Home, acquire a Behaviour which makes it as agreeable to all the reſt of the World, as that of every one elſe of their Family is to each other. I fell into this Way of Thinking from an Intimacy which I have with a very good Houſe in our Neighbourhood, where there are Three Daughters of a very different Character and Genius. The eldeſt has a great deal of Wit and Cunning; the Second has good Senſe, but no Artifice; the Third has much Vivacity, but little Underſtanding. The Firſt is a fine, but ſcornful Woman; the Second is not charming, but very winning; the Third no Way commendable, but very deſirable. The Father of theſe young Creatures was ever a great Pretender to Wit, the Mother a Woman of as much Coquetry. This Turn in the Parents has biaſſed their Affections towards their Children. The old Man ſuppoſes the eldeſt of his own Genius, and the Mother looks upon the youngeſt as her ſelf renewed. By this Means, all the Lovers that approach the Houſe are diſcarded by the Father for not obſerving Mrs. *Mary*'s Wit and Beauty, and by the Mother for being blind to the Mien and Air of Mrs. *Biddy*. Come never ſo many Pretenders, they are not ſuſpected to have the leaſt Thoughts of Mrs. *Betty*, the middle Daughter. *Betty* therefore is mortified into a Woman of a great deal of Merit, and knows ſhe muſt depend on that only for her Advancement. The middlemoſt is thus the Favourite of all her Acquaintance as well as mine, while the other Two carry a certain Inſolence about them in all Converſations, and expect the Partiality which they meet with at Home to attend them wherever they appear. So little do Parents underſtand that they are of all People the leaſt Judges of their Children's Merit, that what they reckon ſuch is ſeldom any Thing elſe but a Repetitition of their own Faults and Infirmities.

There is, methinks, ſome Excuſe for being particular when one of the Offſpring has any Defect in Nature. In this Caſe the Child, if we may ſo ſpeak, is ſo much the longer the Child of its Parents, and calls for the Continuance of their Care and Indulgence from the Slowneſs of its Capacity, or the Weakneſs of its Body. But there is no induring to ſee Men enamoured only at the Sight of their own Impertinencies repeated, and to obſerve, as we may ſometimes, that they have a ſecret Diſlike of their Children for a Degeneracy from their very Crimes. Commend me to Lady *Goodly*; ſhe is equal to all her own Children, but prefers them to thoſe of all the World beſide. My Lady is a perfect Hen in the Care of her Brood; ſhe fights and ſquabbles with all that appear where they come, but is wholly unbiaſſed in diſpenſing her Favours among them. It is no ſmall Pains ſhe is at to defame all the young Women in her Neighbourhood by Viſits, Whiſpers, Intimations, and Hearſays; all which ſhe ends with thanking Heaven, that no one living is ſo bleſſed with ſuch obedient and well inclined Children as her ſelf. Perhaps, ſays ſhe, *Betty* cannot dance like Mrs. *Frontinett*, and it is no great Matter whether ſhe does or not; but ſhe comes into a Room with a good Grace; tho' ſhe ſays it, that ſhould not, ſhe looks like a Gentlewoman. Then if Mrs. *Rebecca* is not ſo talkative as the mighty Wit Mrs. *Clapper*, yet ſhe is diſcreet, ſhe knows better what ſhe ſays when ſhe does ſpeak. If her Wit be ſlow, her Tongue never runs before it. This kind Parent lifts up her Eyes and Hands in Congratulation of her own good Fortune, and is maliciouſly thankful that none of her Girls are like any of her Neighbours: But this Preference of her own to all others, is grounded upon an Impulſe of Nature; while thoſe who like one before another of their own, are ſo unpardonably unjuſt, that it could hardly be equalled in the Children, tho' they preferred all the reſt of the World to ſuch Parents. It is no unpleaſant Entertainment to ſee a Ball at a Dancing-School, and obſerve the Joy of Relations when the young Ones, for whom they are concerned, are in Motion. You need

not be told whom the Dancers belong to: At their first Appearance the Passion of their Parents are in their Faces, and there is always a Nod of Approbation stolen at a good Step, or a graceful Turn.

I remember among all my Acquaintance but one Man whom I have thought to live with his Children with Equanimity and a good Grace. He had Three Sons and One Daughter, whom he bred with all the Care imaginable in a liberal and ingenuous Way. I have often heard him say, He had the Weakness to love one much better than the other, but that he took as much Pains to correct that as any other Criminal Passion that could arise in his Mind. His Method was to make it the only Pretension in his Children to his Favour to be kind to each other; and he would tell them, That he who was the best Brother, he would reckon the best Son. This turned their Thoughts into an Emulation for the Superiority in kind and tender Affection towards each other. The Boys behaved themselves very early with a Manly Friendship; and their Sister, instead of the gross Familiarities and impertinent Freedoms in Behaviour, usual in other Houses, was always treated by them with as much Complaisance as any other young Lady of their Acquaintance. It was an unspeakable Pleasure to visit or sit at a Meal in that Family. I have often seen the old Man's Heart flow at his Eyes with Joy upon Occasions which would appear indifferent to such as were Strangers to the Turn of his Mind; but a very slight Accident, wherein he saw his Children's Good-Will to one another, created in him the Godlike Pleasure of loving them, because they loved each other. This great Command of himself, in hiding his first Impulse to Partiality, at last improved to a steady Justice towards them; and that which at first was but an Expedient to correct his Weakness, was afterwards the Measure of his Virtue.

The Truth of it is, those Parents who are interested in the Care of one Child more than that of another, no longer deserve the Name of Parents, but are in Effect as childish as their Children, in having such unreasonable and ungoverned Inclinations. A Father of this Sort has degraded himself into one of his own Offspring; for none but a Child would take Part in the Passions of Children.

Advertisements.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 10 s. a Ticket, and sold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate-Hill.

AT the *Great Wheat-Sheaf painted upon a Copper Plate*, next the Bell-Savage Inn upon Ludgate-Hill, is sold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades. Likewise Plain and Flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 11 s. per Ticket, and the above-said Goods as cheap as for Specie.

MOrning Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoes (being the Goods of Persons that failed) which were to be disposed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be sold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over against the Horse at Charing-Cross; with a fresh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being set on each Gown.

FOR Sale by the Candle, to Morrow, the 11th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 5 in the Afternoon, (only one Cask in a Lot) viz. 25 Pipes, 1 Puncheon, two half Pipes, and 4 Quarter Casks, of new White Cherilla Mountain Wine, near, an entire Cargo, imported by the Two Brothers from the Azores, and landed the 5th Instant at Sommer's Key near Billingsgate; now in a Ground Warehouse in the Gate-way of Sommer's Key aforesaid. To be tasted this Day from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and to Morrow till the Hour of Sale. To be Sold by T. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane, between Tower-street and Crouched-Friars.

*** This Day is published, A Military and Sea Dictionary: Explaining all difficult Terms in Martial Discipline, Fortification, and Gunnery, and all Terms of Navigation. The Fourth Edition, improved. To which is added, The new Exercise of Firelocks and Bayonets, with Instruction to perform every Motion. Very useful (to all Persons that read the Publick News, or serve in the Army, Militia, or Navy,) for the understanding the Accounts of Sieges, Battles, and other Warlike and Marine Expeditions, which daily occur in this Time of Action. By Officers who serv'd several Years at Land and Sea. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall Pr. 1 s. 6 d.

JERUSALEM Eye-Water; being the only Remedy ever yet exposed in the World for Sore, Weak, Running, Rheumatick Eyes. It is sold for 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle by Mr. Lillie, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and by Mr. Weekly, a Tobacconist, near St. Dunstan's Church in Fleet-street, with Directions.

*** A Collection of some Letters, written from the 14th of June, 1709. to the 24th of May, 1710. concerning his Eminency the Cardinal de Bouillon, Dean of the Sacred College, &c. Together with Considerations upon the Letter written to the French King by the said Cardinal, upon his Departure from the Kingdom of France. The whole containing the unjust Grounds of his Eminency's Disgrace 10 Years ago, the many indignities and Persecutions he has undergone since, and all the particular Steps he took, in order to put an End to his Slavery and Exile, by resigning his Offices, and quitting the Kingdom of France. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Pr. 1 s.

*** The secret Letters and Negotiations of the Mares. d'Estrades, Monsr. Colbert, and the Count d'Avaux, the French King's Plenipotentiary-Ambassadors in the Treaty of Nemeguen. Together with his most Christian Majesty's and Monsr. de Pomponne's Answers and Instructions. Faithfully translated from the French Original, printed at the Hague this present Year 1710, and are highly necessary for those Gentlemen who have Sir William Temple's Letters and Memoirs, or desire to inform themselves of the Artifice used by the Court of France in Negotiations. Done on a neat Elzevir Letter, and a superfine Demy Paper, in 4 Vol. in 12mo, and is a curious Pocket Edition. Sold by John Morphew near Stationers-hall, and Ja. Woodward in St. Christopher's Church-yard behind the Royal-Exchange. Price bound in Calf 10 s.

THIS is to give Notice, That Mr. Peters's Sale of Houses in Glocester-street, of 1000 l. for Half a Crown, being near full, will be drawn on Monday the 23d Instant without fail. Tickets to be had at Mr. Halsey's, Ironmonger, in Wood-street; Mr. Farran's, Goldsmith, at the Blue Perriwig in Russel-street, Covent-Garden; Mr. Chantrill, Shoemaker, at the Corner of Tooley-street; Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford-buildings; at Rice's Coffee-house in the Hay-Market; Mr. Smith's at the Black Spread-Eagle in Leadenhall Market; Mr. Wind's, Cheesemonger, near Stocks Market; Mr. Rutter's in St. John Street; at the Two Houses in Glocester-street; and all the other Places mentioned in the Proposals.

THIS is to give Notice, That the Sale of the rich Bed, Tapestry, Plate, &c. (which were seen at Drapers-Hall) being near full, will be drawn in Michaelmas Term next. All Persons who are willing to become Adventurers, are desired to be as speedy as possible in taking out Tickets, which (with the Proposals at large) are to be had at Two Guinea's each, at Mr. Flemming's at the Key against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street; Mr. Stocker at the Mitre near York-buildings; Mr. Farran's at the Blue-Perriwig in Russel-street Covent-garden, Goldsmiths; St. James's Coffee-house, Alice's Coffee-house, Old Palace-Yard, Westminster; Squire's in Fuller's Rents, Holborn; Sam's in Ludgate-street; at Mr. Nath. Carpenter's, Merchant, in Clements-lane, Lombard-street; (where any Person, not having seen them, may have a View of the Goods) and at Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford Buildings.

MRs. Love's Twelvepenny Sale of Plate and Goods, in Red-Lion Street, Holborn, next Door to the Crown, will be drawn the 16th Instant, at the Sign of Goldsmiths-Hall in Cary-lane near Fetter-lane, Cheapside, where Tickets are to be had, at Tawney's Coffee-house in Bell-Savage Yard on Ludgate-Hill, and at the said Mrs. Love's. The Prizes are, a Silver Punch-Bowl and Ladle, Milk-Pot, Spoons, Gold Rings, and other Things of Value. Whoever loses, shall have the Value of 10 d. for each Shilling.

THIS Chrystal Cosmetick, approv'd of by the worthy Dr. Paul Chamberline, viz. by washing Morning or Evening, cures all Red Faces, proceeding from what Cause soever; takes off all Morphews, Pimples, and Freckles: It's of a fair Nature, cleansing and adorning the Face and Hands of both Sexes in a very beautiful Manner, and may be used with as much Safety as Milk, having in it no Mercury (so frequently made use of) or any other Thing that may be prejudicial to the Body. Price of the largest Bottle 6 s. the lesser 3 s. Sold at Mr. Allcroft's by Exchange-alley, Cornhil; Mr. Jackson's the Corner of Woodstreet, Cheapside; Mrs. Brecknock's, the upper End of St. James's street, Piccadilly; and formerly sold at the Comb under St. Dunstan's Church in Fleetstreet, but now removed. To prevent Counterfeits, each single Bottle with Directions is tied and sealed with this Coat of Arms, a Fesse with a Lion Rampant in a Canton.